



ABOVE: Auckland architects Eva Nash (left) and Kate Rogan chose Resene 'Smalt Blue', a moody blue/green that allows white accents such as picture frames and trim to stand out. LEFT: The living room was painted in Resene 'Foggy Grey' with Resene 'Alabaster' trim.

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## THE COLOUR EXPERTS

Architects Kate Rogan and Eva Nash are loving blues and greys

For Kate Rogan and Eva Nash, of Rogan Nash Architects, colour is a talking point. "It makes people feel at home as soon as they step inside," says Eva, "and encourages them to use a room in a certain way." Each new project gives the pair fresh opportunities to explore different colour palettes. In this 1940s Californian bungalow, Kate and Eva chose colours that would modernise the interior and work with the character features and aesthetic of the home. "We did this house room by room, so there was an existing palette to work with. Greys and blues gave it a lift and fitted together really well," says Kate.

**WHY DID YOU PICK RESENE 'FOGGY GREY' FOR THE LIVING ROOM?** Greys either have a warm palette or a cool palette. In an older home, such as this 1940s bungalow, a grey with a warmer palette was needed to soften the space. In a modern home, greys with a cooler palette work best. Grey also tends to hide bumps and blemishes on the walls of old houses better than white does.

**SAME COLOUR THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE OR DIFFERENT COLOURS?** We think the key is to break out of using the same colour everywhere. We always ask ourselves, what is the room used for and how can we create atmosphere? For example, we used Resene 'Smalt Blue' in the dining room. It's a space that's used in the evening so it can handle a

darker colour, but we also used it to encourage a sumptuous dining experience.

**WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A COLOUR?** Lighting. If a room is used during the day, test the paint in natural light. If the room is used at night, see what it looks like under a bulb. The placement of a room in a house will also determine the light level. We always like to get some paint swatches and try them out in different areas of each room before we decide.

**TIPS FOR PEOPLE WANTING TO EXPLORE COLOUR:** The best thing about painting the walls is that it's so easy to change if you don't like it. If you go for a neutral wall, add colour by layering with cushions and furniture.